

Education Committee

SUPPORT: Executive Budget Charter School Per Pupil Increase

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

**Dear Members of the Education Committee,**

**My name is Bria Lindsay, I am a single mother of three girls ages 8, 13, and 17. I have lived in Bridgeport most of my life.**

**You have heard from many people today and are likely exhausted from all the virtual meetings you are part of. I thank you in advance for being attentive to the voices of constituents, and I hope that many of those voices were of parents like myself-who are before you to advocate for equity in education for their children!**

**I wanted to start off by thanking the Governor for his proposal to increase the funding given to our black brown and minority children in public charter schools. I want to give a wholehearted thank you to every single one of you who has fought to make Connecticut a State that treats all children equitably and funds them according to their needs regardless of where they live, the school they attend or the socioeconomic background.**

**It strikes me that the scourge of massive numbers of students, who suffer not only presently in this pandemic but for decades is no accident. It has been clear to me that for a long time looking the other way and ignoring the needs of communities like mine is more so the norm.**

**Today I am asking you to take a moment and imagine what could and will be, in a not so far future to invest in quality educational options, like our public charters- and what that means to people of color like my family. I am asking not only for you to work with the Governor to implement his proposal for our public charters, but that we eradicate the current practices of NOT treating children as EQUAL!**

**As an adult, as a Mom, I now understand the importance of education and do my best to instill it into my children. They are gritty, hard working kids, attending schools that challenge and support them not matter what is happening- like the pandemic. I am also leading by example by attending college, I will be graduating in the spring of 2021!**

**This pandemic has made me appreciate my family and love unconditionally, now more than ever! Today I ask you to show the love and dedication you have to all children by joining in support of the Governor's proposal, funding all children according to their needs, and supporting public charters like Stamford Excellence and Danbury Prospect.**

**The need for quality school options in our state, in marginalized communities like mine- has and will remain an urgent one.**

**To end I leave you with this...I heard one of our elected officials in Bridgeport say, "We either invest in our kids now, or we invest later paying into incarceration." I join the representatives and add the following...**This can not and will not be our legacy!****

**I stand in support of SB 948, SB 949 and SB 886.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration.**

**Best regards,**

**Bria Lindsay**



# HONOR ROLL

AWARDED TO

A'Laysha Walker

For strong academic performance at AF Bridgeport Academy Middle School

Given this 6<sup>th</sup> Day of January 2021.

Annedrea Coleman

Ms. Coleman, Principal



**Alize Walker**

Dec 24, 2020 • 🌐



4 HBCU acceptances so far 😊 Alabama state,  
Johnson C Smith, Jackson State and  
Fayetteville State!!

**BRIDGEPORT AMISTAD SENIOR GETTING IT DONE - 2020-2021 NO MATTER WHAT I**